

Remarks

Reconsideration and reexamination of the above-identified patent application, as amended, are respectfully requested. Claims 5, 9-10, and 13-20 are pending in this application upon entry of this Amendment. In this Amendment, the Applicant has amended claims 5, 9, 13-17, and 19-20; and cancelled claims 1-4, 6-8, and 11-12. No claims have been added in this Amendment. Of the pending claims, claim 9 is the only independent claim.

Allowable Subject Matter

In the Office Action mailed October 7, 2005, the Examiner objected to claim 12 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 12 depended from claim 11 which depended from independent claim 9. The Applicant has amended independent claim 9 to include the limitations of its dependent claims 11-12. Thus, amended independent claim 9 is in a condition for allowance. Claims 5, 10, and 13-20, as amended, depend from amended independent claim 9 and include the limitations therein. Accordingly, claims 5, 9-10, and 13-20, as amended, are in a condition for allowance.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 9-11 and 13-20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Publication No. 2003/0114202 issued to Suh et al. ("Suh"). The Applicant respectfully traverses these claim rejections. However, in the interest of obtaining patent protection for subject matter currently indicated as being allowable, the Applicant has cancelled claim 11 and has amended the claims as indicated above to put claims 9-10 and 13-20 into a condition for allowance. Thus, the claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) are now moot. The Applicant reserves the right to prosecute claims which are identical or similar to claims 9-11 and 13-20 as rejected in any continuation application.

Claim Rejections- 35 U.S.C. § 103

The Examiner rejected claims 1-8 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,052,603 issued to Kinzalow et al. ("Kinzalow") in view of Suh. The Applicant respectfully traverses these claim rejections. However, in the interest of obtaining patent protection for subject currently indicated as being allowable, the Applicant has cancelled claims 1-8 thereby rendering the 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) claim rejections moot. The Applicant reserves the right to prosecute claims which are identical or similar to cancelled claims 1-8 in any continuation application.

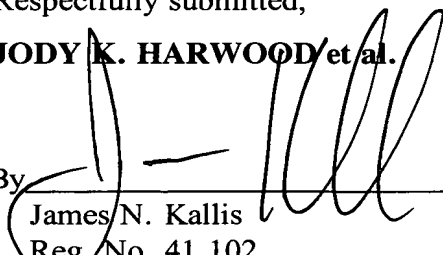
CONCLUSION

In summary, claims 5, 9-10, and 13-20, as amended, meet the substantive requirements for patentability. The case is in appropriate condition for allowance. Accordingly, such action is respectfully requested.

If a telephone or video conference would expedite allowance or resolve any further questions, such a conference is invited at the convenience of the Examiner.

Respectfully submitted,

JODY K. HARWOOD et al.

By 
James N. Kallis
Reg. No. 41,102
Attorney for Applicant

Date: October 14, 2005

BROOKS KUSHMAN P.C.
1000 Town Center, 22nd Floor
Southfield, MI 48075-1238
Phone: 248-358-4400
Fax: 248-358-3351